

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the office action mailed May 21, 2007. Applicant further thanks the Examiner for the telephone interview held May 31, 2007, and the present amended is intended to implement the conclusions of our meeting. The present amendment is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner, and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance is hereby solicited.

Applicant herein cancels without prejudice claims 118 – 122, 126 – 132, 135, and 137 – 140. Thus, claims 123 – 125, 133 - 134, 136 and 141 - 157 remain in the case.

Claim 123 has been amended to be an independent claim incorporating all limitations of claims 122 and 118 to which it had previously been dependent. Claims 144 and 153 are parallel claims and have been similarly amended. Neither Balakrishnan nor Cole teaches terminating power in an under-current condition within a predetermined time period, as recited in claims 123 and parallel claims. Balakrishnan simply detects a current crossing a threshold (col. 4 line 50 – 63) for monitoring and detection purposes with no provision for a particular action or a predetermined period. Balakrishnan takes no action in the event of over-current, and simply fails to light an LED in the event of an under-current condition (col. 4 line 59 – 63). Removal of power from an under-current load is thus neither suggested nor indicated by Balakrishnan, certainly not removal of power from an under-current load after a predetermined time period.

Claim 124 has been amended to be an independent claim incorporating all limitations of claims 118 to which it had previously been dependent. Claims 133 and 145 are parallel claims and have been similarly amended. Neither Balakrishnan nor Cole teaches monitoring the total power flow to the plurality of nodes, and classifying the total as one of over-current and normal as recited in claims 124 and parallel claims. As per the examiner's request, each of the independent claims have been amended to clarify that it the overall current flow to the plurality of powered local area network nodes that is monitored and classified.